NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RONALD J. TENPAS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

April 20, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **JOHN ANDREW SMILEY**, age 38, of Westfield, Illinois, pled guilty today in Federal District Court in Benton, Illinois, to the felony offenses of Conspiracy to Manufacture Methamphetamine and Possession With Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine.

The maximum penalty that can be imposed for the Conspiracy charge is a period of incarceration of not less than 20 years nor more than life, a fine of not more than \$8,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 10 years. The charge of Possession With Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine carries a maximum penalty of incarceration of not less than 10 years nor more than life, a fine of not more than \$4,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at lest 8 years. Sentencing is set for July 21, 2005, at 10:00 a.m.

On January 6, 2004, the Westfield, Illinois Police Department executed a search warrant obtained in State court by the Clark County State's Attorneys Office. The search revealed numerous items consistent with the manufacture of methamphetamine including liquids and powder containing a mixture or substance which tested positive for methamphetamine.

The investigation of this case was a cooperative effort of the Clark County State's Attorneys Office; the Westfield, Illinois Police Department; the Secretary of State Police Bomb Squad; and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, pursuant to these agencies' participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, the Clark Count State's Attorneys Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and is directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Richard H. Lloyd.